

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 7, 8, 10 and 20-22 are pending. By this Amendment, Claims 11-20 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

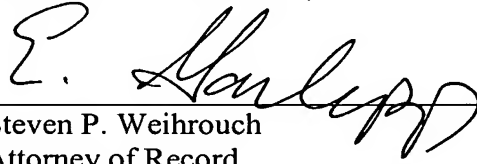
Applicants appreciate the Patent Office Communication's indicating that the Application is substantially in condition for Allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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